

San Antonio Independent School District
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SAISD Learning Labs:

Experiments in Success!



Presented by:
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San Antonio ISD



San Antonio ISD Vision 2009 Our Mission

The mission of the San Antonio Independent School District is to graduate all students as responsible citizens with the academic and social preparation to pursue higher education, join the military, or enter the workforce.

Increase Graduation Rates
Decrease Retention Rates
Use Technology in Instruction
Provide Support for All Student Needs



Develop the Academies for Accelerated Learning



How It All Got Started

The Need:

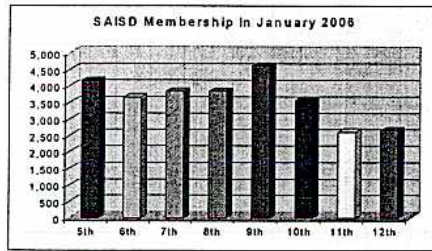
- High dropout rates
- High retention rates (especially at 9th grade)

The Plan:

- Create a Small, Caring Environment
- Provide a True Alternative Delivery of Instruction
- Offer Strong Support from Personnel
(Rigor, Relevance, Relationships)



The Total Picture



Choosing the Technology

- Depth of Content Available
(Lots of Courses and Lessons)
- Malleability of System
(Can be tailored to fit our needs)
- System Flexibility
- Cost Effectiveness



The Learning Lab Design

Personnel:

- 4 Teachers (4 Core Contents)
- 1 Counselor
- 1 Student Liaison

Physical Setup:

- On-line Room
- Off-line Room
- Counselor's Office



Where

8 SAISD High Schools
1 SAISD Alternative Campus
1 SAISD Non-Traditional Campus
Currently available at 37 Campuses

and When

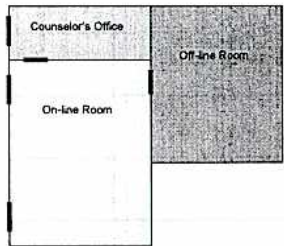
Fall 2000 to Present

and How

First funded by NGSI
Now funded by State Comp. for At-Risk Students



Learning Lab Structure



An SAISD Learning Lab...



Selecting and Training Staff

- Student-Oriented Teachers and Counselors
- Self-Directed, Willing to Learn and Spend Time
- Use Master Teachers as Trainers
- Provide for Immediate Support
- Update Training Every Year (Changing Personnel)
- Provide Advanced Training to Create Experts



Making It All Work



- Be Creative and Make It Work for You
- Change the Bureaucracy If You Need To
- Monitor and Adjust
- Create Your Own Experts
- Maintain Central Oversight



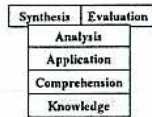
Some Things to Consider

- Scheduling Students into the Learning Labs
 - Student Eligibility
 - Holding Number
 - Credit only awarded when earned
- Assigning Personnel
 - Pupil/Teacher Student Ratio
 - Flex Scheduling
- Documenting Out-of-Sequence Credits
 - Careful Referrals and Documentation of Credits
 - Cooperation within the School Community
- Logistics
 - Getting and Keeping Textbooks
 - Materials and Budgets from Departments
 - Supervision and Evaluation at the Campus Level



Some More Things to Consider

Bloom's Taxonomy



Maslow's Hierarchy



Piaget's Theory

THE FOUR STAGES OF COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT		
Stage	Approximate Age	Chief Characteristics
Sensory-motor	Birth-2 years	Discovery of relationships between objects and motor behavior
Preoperational	2-7 years	Use of symbols to represent objects; egocentricity; egocentric thought
Concrete operational	7-11 years	Discovery of logic and conservation of "quantity" through manipulation
Formal operational	11 years +	Development of abstract and hypothetical reasoning



Logistics of Setting Up the Program

Selecting and setting up the curriculum

Core Content Areas			
Math	E/LA	Science	Social Studies
Algebra I (Semesters A & B)	English I (Semesters A & B)	Biology (Semesters A & B)	World Geography (Semesters A & B)
Geometry (Semesters A & B)	English II (Semesters A & B)	IPC (Semesters A & B)	World History (Semesters A & B)
Algebra II (Semesters A & B)	English III (Semesters A & B)	Chemistry (Semesters A & B)	United States History (Semesters A & B)
Math Models (Semesters A & B)	English IV (Semesters A & B)	(Health) (One Semester)	Government/ Economics (One Semester Each)



can assist w/ transfer of block students, etc.

System Support for Learning Lab

Personnel

The Role of the Teacher



- Assess and Diagnose
- Plan Instruction
- Conduct Instruction
- Manage the Environment
- Evaluate Progress/Mastery



System Support for Learning Lab Personnel

Assess and Diagnose

- Initial Assessment for Student Baseline
 - Reading Levels
 - Math Levels
- System Generated Module Tests
- Documents Content Knowledge with Semester Tests
- Designing Individual Education Plans



System Support for Learning Lab Personnel

Plan Instruction

- District-Wide Curriculum and Materials
- Continuing Assessment and Alignment of Curriculum
- Collaboration with Content Teachers
- Develop High Quality Off-line Materials



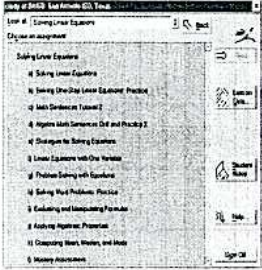
Creating the curriculum documents (IEP's)

Information to include:


- Student Name and ID#
- Course Name
- Module Names
- Lesson Titles and File Names
- Other Information As Required




From NovaNET to the Curriculum Sheet




Solving Linear Equations	
1) Solving Linear Equations	L-alc301
2) Solving One-Step Linear Equations: Practice	L-alc301t1
3) Math Sentences Tutorial 2	L-alc302
4) Algebra Math Sentences Dril and Practice 2	L-alc302t2
5) Strategies for Solving Equations	L-alc303
6) Linear Equations with One Variable	L-alc303t1
7) Problem Solving with Equations	L-alc303t2
8) Solving Word Problems: Practice	L-alc303t3
9) Evaluating and Manipulating Formulas	L-alc303t4
10) Applying Algebraic Properties	L-alc303t5
11) Computing Mean, Median, and Mode	L-alc303t6
12) Mastery Assessment	T-alc303t1



Standardize Learning Lab Curriculum

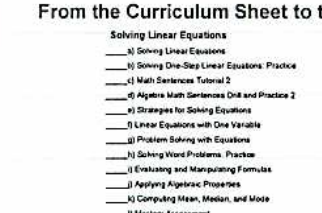


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4) Algebra Math Sentences Dril and Practice 2	L-alc302t2
5) Strategies for Solving Equations	L-alc303
6) Linear Equations with One Variable	L-alc303t1
7) Problem Solving with Equations	L-alc303t2
8) Solving Word Problems: Practice	L-alc303t3
9) Evaluating and Manipulating Formulas	L-alc303t4
10) Applying Algebraic Properties	L-alc303t5
11) Computing Mean, Median, and Mode	L-alc303t6
12) Mastery Assessment	T-alc303t1




take pre/post test and
only take those areas
needed

From the Curriculum Sheet to the State Standards



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System Support for Learning Lab Personnel

Conduct Instruction

- One-on-one Teacher/Student Relationships
- Non-judgmental, Stress-free Environment
- Student-centered Timeline for Instruction



System Support for Learning Lab Personnel

Manage the Environment

- Individualized Educational Plans (IEP's)
- Focus on Technology
- Open Entry/Open Exit Policy



active learners

System Support for Learning Lab Personnel

Evaluate Progress/Mastery

- Posttest with Comparison to Student Baseline
Reading Levels
Math Levels
- System Generated with Module Tests
- Documents Content Knowledge with
Semester Tests
- Clear Documentation of Results



The Students We Serve

- Retained 9th Grade Students
- 10th – 12th Graders
- Special Circumstances
(new students with schedule requirements, etc.)
- Special Populations
(illness, homebound, etc.)



Additional Uses and Possibilities

- Summer School for Credit Recovery
- Classroom Lessons (Science Simulations)
- Supplemental Lessons in Alternative Campuses
- In-School Suspension
- Optional Extended Year (After School Programs)
- Middle School
 - Overage Students
 - Tutorials



Pitfalls:

Bureaucratic Restrictions

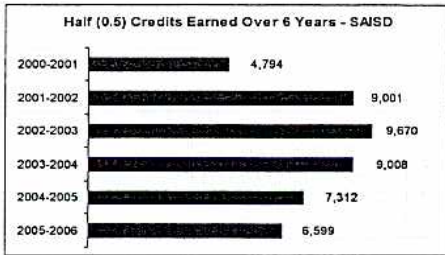
Inconsistency

Fuzzy Vision

Lack of Coordination



The Benefits



45,675 Half Credits Awarded!



The Benefits

Productivity of Teachers:

An average of 120 full credits per year per teacher!



Other Benefits

Greater Flexibility in Scheduling
 Maintaining Support for the Student Cohort
 Home School Advantage
 Fewer Retained Freshmen
 "Pure" Classes – Fewer Repeaters
 Higher Graduation Rates



Continuing the Program:

Continued Funding

Continual Curriculum
Refinement and Alignment

Centralized Commitment and
Support



Questions and Answers:

Contact:

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(210) 224-9623

Guided Tours Available!